

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: NATOMIN: FORMAT AND AGENDA OF DECEMBER 12-13 NAC MINISTERIAL

REF: STATE 236928

1. CHARGE MCAULIFFE CALLED ON SYG LUNS MORNING OF OCTOBER 31 AND INITIATED DISCUSSION OF DECEMBER NAC MINISTERIAL FORMAT AND AGENDA BY REMARKING THAT WASHINGTON WAS VERY PLEASED WITH THE LEADERSHIP LUNS HAS ALREADY SHOWN IN ORGANIZING DECEMBER MINISTERIAL, PARTICULARLY HIS INITIATIVES AT THE OCTOBER 22 PERMREPS LUNCH. CLARIFYING THAT HE WAS SPEAKING ON INSTRUCTIONS, MCAULIFFE THEN DREW FULLY ON PARA 1 REFTEL CONCERNING US VIEWS ON MAIN ISSUES FOR MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION, AND ON PARA 3 REFTEL CONCERNING PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENTS. LUNS SAID HE WAS FULLY IN ACCORD WITH US VIEWS AND WOULD CONTINUE TO DIRECT THE COUNCIL TOWARD DECISIONS ALONG THESE LINES. THE SYG WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THE US SUGGESTION THAT MINISTERS' DISCUSSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SITUATION SHOULD EMPHASIZE CONSEQUENCES FOR THE WESTERN DEFENSE POSTURE AND PARTICULARLY THE EFFECT ON THE ALLIANCE OF SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES

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THREATENING SOME OF THE ECONOMICALLY WEAKER COUNTRIES OF NATO.

2. MCAULIFFE THEN DREW ON PARA 4 REFTEL CONCERNING BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS ON OCCASION OF THE DECEMBER GATHERING AND SECRETARY KSSINGER'S TRAVEL PLANS. LUNS ASKED THAT MCAULIFFE REPORT TO

WASHINGTON HE WAS GRATIFIED THAT THE SECRETARY WILL BE COMING TO BRUSSELS ON DECEMBER 10, AS THAT WILL GIVE HIM A FULL DAY FOR SUCH BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS BEFORE THE OPENING OF THE NAC MINISTERIAL. THEY SYG WISHED, HOWEVER, URGE THE SECRETARY TO BE FLEXIBLE ON HIS PLANNED DECEMBER 13 EARLY AFTERNOON DEPARTURE, IF THAT WERE POSSIBLE, SO THE SECRETARY WOULD BE FREE TO DEVOTE THE FULL AFTERNOON TO CONTINUED NAC DISCUSSIONS IF THAT BECAME NECESSARY.

3. MCAULIFFE THEN DREW ON PARA 6 REFTEL CONCERNING SHARING US VIEWS ON DISCUSSION OF ECONOMIC ISSUES WITH DE STAERCKE AND DE ROSE. LUNS THOUGHT THIS AN EXCELLENT SUGGESTION AND FULLY APPROVED. HE ASKED THAT, AS SOON AS THE BELGIAN AND FRENCH PERMREPS HAD BEEN BROUGHT INTO THE PICTURE, THE US RUN ITS IDEAS AND PREFERENCES BY ASYG FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS KASTL. MCAULIFFE

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